

Sample Recommended Instructional Time

Standards-Based Teaching and Learning

RECOMMENDED MINUTES OF INSTRUCTION FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

	Primary Grades (1-3)		Upper Elementary (4-6, including 7 & 8 if self-contained)	
	Daily	Weekly	Daily	Weekly
Developmental Reading	90 Min.	450 min.	60 min.	300 min.
Language Arts	60 min.	300 min.	60 min.	300 min.
Mathematics	60 min.	300 min.	60 min.	300 min.
Social Studies	30 min.	150 min.	40 min.	200 min.
Science	30 min.	150 min.	40 min.	200 min.
Physical Education	*30 min.	120 min.	*30 min.	120 min.
Art	**15 min.	60 min.	**15 min.	60 min.
Music	**15 min.	60 min.	**15 min.	60 min.
Health	** <u>15 min.</u>	<u>60 min.</u>	<u>15 min.</u>	<u>60 min.</u>
Total	345 min.	1650 min.	335 min.	1600 min.

*It is recommended that this be scheduled and taught at least 120 minutes (about 2 hours) per week.

**It is recommended that this be scheduled and taught at least 60 minutes per week.

It is assumed the normal six-hour day will provide 360 minutes (about 6 hours) of instructional activities in which children are under the guidance and direction of teachers in the teaching process. The above recommendations provide 15 minutes for primary grades and 25 minutes for upper elementary grades so that the teacher can schedule additional activities that are in the best interest of the youngsters. The school week should consist of 1800 minutes of instruction at the primary and upper elementary grade levels. This allows about 150-200 minutes (about 3 and a half hours) of instruction time per week at the teacher's discretion. It should be noted that in both the daily and weekly schedule reading and language arts activities should be incorporated into other instructional areas, and rich content should be incorporated into reading and language arts.

The Arizona Department of Education gratefully acknowledges the work of the Missouri Department of Education in providing a sample of recommended elementary school instructional minutes.